

Chairman Julius Genachowski Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 150 South Front St Suite 200 Columbus, OH 43215

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July 16, 2011

RE: In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations (WT Docket No. 11-65).

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Fellow Commissioners,

The Columbus Partnership is a civic organization of community leaders whose goal is to improve the economic vitality of Central Ohio. After reviewing the facts involved with AT&T's proposal to combine with T-Mobile, we are of the opinion that this merger will benefit Ohio and should receive the FCC's blessing.

One of our largest on-going projects is the effort to attract new companies and industries to the eight-county area of Central Ohio. Having the fastest, most reliable wireless broadband available in every Ohio community will go a long way towards making Ohio look like a better place to start or expand a business. As a result of this merger, AT&T will deliver just the type of wireless broadband that we need. By allowing these companies to merge, the FCC would be opening the door for a wave of new jobs and businesses to start up in Central Ohio. Our economy drastically needs this boost and this opportunity could not have come at a better time.

In addition to making Ohio a more attractive investment for businessmen and entrepreneurs, this merger will also provide a much needed enhancement to small businesses and industries already in the area. If this merger is allowed to proceed, small businesses across Ohio will have instant access to wireless broadband and all of the advantages and communication features that it provides. Markets full of untapped consumers will be available for instant communication from anywhere in the world. New potential partners or investors from across the country will be connected through AT&T's fast, reliable network of wireless broadband. The competitive edge that Ohio businesses will receive is invaluable and should not be overlooked.

Please help the Columbus Partnership in our goal of making Central Ohio a more economically prosperous and business-friendly community for investors, consumers, and entrepreneurs. We respectfully request that you approve of this merger.

Sincerely,

Alex R. Fischer President and CEO

The Columbus Partnership